

exactly what they wanted? Of course not. But tackling big issues demands collaboration and compromise. While it is easy to identify the many challenges that ail the Postal Service, missing from almost any serious diagnosis is the fundamental albatross around the Service's neck. Some would advocate that there is a simple, easy, and perfect solution to restore the Postal Service. They offer their own purity test, impervious to new information, pragmatic considerations, and all context, for what must be included in a reform bill. It would be foolish to let perfect be the enemy of the good. Rather than re-litigate the discrete disagreements that guarantee its demise, our coalition has a worthy proposal that can save the Service. That should be the focus.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA POLICE HOME RULE ACT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Police Home Rule Act. This bill is necessary to eliminate the President's authority to federalize the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the local District of Columbia police department. The President has no authority to federalize any other local or state police department, and no president has tried to federalize MPD. Under the Home Rule Act, "whenever the President . . . determines that special conditions of an emergency nature exist which require the use of the [MPD] for Federal purposes, he may direct the Mayor to provide him, and the Mayor shall provide, such services of the [MPD] as the President may deem necessary and appropriate."

Under the section of the Home Rule Act that would be repealed by this bill, the President may federalize MPD for a period of not more than 30 days, unless a resolution passed by

Congress extending such federalization is enacted into law. Congress may also terminate the federalization at any time by enacting a resolution. This bill is necessary, even with these protections, because, under the principle of home rule, the President should not have control over the District's local police department.

While it does not appear that a President has exercised this authority over MPD, this latent power is totally unnecessary, should not exist and is an affront to MPD, which has always voluntarily assisted federal authorities. MPD's first responsibility is to protect District residents and visitors, and it must always remain under the authority of the D.C. mayor to accomplish its mission. Moreover, federalization is outdated in light of current practice. MPD regularly assists the federal government as a matter of comity, not as an arm of the federal government, just as I am sure other local police departments do in the region. There are approximately 30 federal police departments under the President's control in the District. In the case of a federal emergency, the President can unilaterally deploy these federal officers, as well as the D.C. National Guard, to address it, and also request the support of our local police department, as the President would do in any other jurisdiction.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF JACK VAN DUNCAN

#### HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 15, 2018*

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Jack Van Duncan of Buncombe County, North Carolina. I would like to express my gratitude to Sheriff Duncan for his 32 years of serving and protecting the citizens of Western North Carolina.

Sheriff Van Duncan was born in Spruce Pine, North Carolina and graduated from Mitchell County High School. Sheriff Van Duncan began his career in Law Enforcement in 1986, after graduating from Western Carolina University with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Sheriff Van Duncan went on to graduate from the Administrative Officer's Management Program at North Carolina State University in 1993.

Over the course of his career, Sheriff Van Duncan has worked at the Weaverville and Asheville police departments, as well as the Biltmore Estate, where he served as chief of company police for six years. While with the Buncombe County Sheriff's office, he proudly served as a Patrolman, Patrol Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, and Detective during his years as a Deputy. He worked as an Instructor in the Management and Supervision Section for the North Carolina Justice Academy for two and a half years before being elected Sheriff in 2006. Sheriff Van Duncan has served as Sheriff for Buncombe County for 12 years.

Sheriff Van Duncan has had many accomplishments as Sheriff over the last 12 years. He earned the respect of his colleagues by leading with integrity and restoring good order within the Sheriff's Department. Not only that, he has been an innovator for helping the children in Buncombe County by starting the On Track Leadership Program to help rising eighth and ninth graders with good decision-making skills. He has also been instrumental in starting a juvenile diversion program that will help young people avoid obtaining a criminal record.

Sheriff Van Duncan has consistently displayed professionalism and candor during his time in office and focused on meeting the needs of the people in Buncombe County. He has deeply impacted the lives of the people he proudly served for 12 years, and it is my distinct honor to recognize his outstanding work and express the best wishes of the people of Western North Carolina to Sheriff Van Duncan on the occasion of his retirement.